AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please enter the following amendments without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the specification:

On page 1, under the title, please insert the following new paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is a 371 application of PCT/AU00/00032, filed January 20, 2000, which claims priority to Australian application PP 8239, filed January 20, 1999, both of which are incorporated by reference in their entirety.

On page 10, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

List of IFN-β preparations currently used in the treatment of MS. *sc* = subcutaneous injection; *im* = intramuscular injection. BETASERON, interferon beta-1b; AVONEX, interferon beta-1a; REBIF, interferon beta-1a.

On page 15, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 16 with the following amended paragraph:

~~Betaseron~~ BETASERON (interferon beta-1b) (or ~~Betaferon~~ BETAFERON (interferon beta-1b)), for example, is usually supplied by Schering in dehydrated form together with dextrose and human serum albumin as carrier or diluent. Also included is 0.54% NaCl to act as an aqueous carrier or diluent which rehydrates the dehydrated IFN-β/dextrose/human serum albumin prior to injection.

On page 19, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 with the following amended paragraph:

The encephalitogenic PLP peptide, residues 139-151 (HCLGKWLGHPDKF (SEQ ID NO:1); Greer et al., 1996, J. Immunol. 156:371-9), was synthesized by step-wise solid phase techniques and purified by reverse-phase HPLC. Purity was determined by electrospray mass spectrometry (≥90% pure).

On page 22, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

Dilutions of cpn10 were prepared in incubation medium from 100 μg/ml (10.0 μM) to 20 ng/ml (2.0 nM) (see FIG. 6) and 100 μl of each dilution dispensed in triplicate into 96-well flat-bottomed plates (~~Nunclon TM-Δ~~ NUNCLON MicroWell Plates, Nunc, Roskilde, Denmark). MBP (50 μl, 80 μg/ml incubation medium) and prepared lymph node cell suspension (50 μl; 4 x 106 cells/ml) were added to each well. Control wells (6 wells each) contained either (a) cells with MBP but no cpn10 or (b) cells with no MBP nor cpn10. Plates were incubated in a humidified atmosphere at 37°C, 5% CO2 for 72 hrs. During the last 18 hrs, each well was pulsed with 0.5 μCi [methyl-3H] thymidine (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech) and incorporated radioactivity measured on a scintillation counter (EG&G Wallac, Turku, Finland). Radioactivity incorporated into wells containing cpn10 was compared to that in wells without cpn10. Parallel plates were prepared for assessment of cell viability. After 72 hrs incubation, the supernatant medium was removed, the cells resuspended in 0.1% w/v trypan blue in PBS (20 μl). Cell viability was assessed by trypan blue exclusion.

On page 34, please replace Table 1 with the following amended Table 1:

TABLE 1

	~~Betaseron~~ BETASERON	~~Avonex~~ AVONEX	~~Rebif~~ REBIF
Manufacturer	Schering	Biogen	Ares-Serono
Site of injection	*sc*	*im*	*sc*
Frequency of injection	thrice weekly	one per week	thrice weekly